

## SAMPLING TECHNICIAN

### Certifying Authority

**Bruce Hokel**  
**Lead Poisoning Prevention Program**  
**Iowa Department of Public Health**  
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### Legal Authority

Code of Iowa, Chapter 135.105A

### Job Description

Sampling technicians conduct "visual risk assessments" to determine the presence of deteriorated paint or other potential sources of lead-based paint hazards in a residential dwelling or child-occupied facility. They may also conduct clearance testing after interim controls, paint stabilization, or standards treatments pursuant to HUD regulations. Technicians provide a written report explaining the results of the assessment to the person requesting the assessment.

### Education & Experience Required

Applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

- 1) Associate's degree
- 2) High school diploma and one year of related experience (e.g., lead, environmental health, public health, housing inspection, building trades).
- 3) Certification as an industrial hygienist, professional engineer, registered architect, registered sanitarian, registered environmental health specialist, or registered nurse.

#### Specific Required Training Program:

Applicants must complete an Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)-approved training program. To be approved for the training of visual risk assessors, a course must be at least 20 instructional training hours with a minimum of four hours devoted to hands-on activities and shall cover at least the following subjects (requirements ending in an asterisk (\*) indicate areas that require hands-on activities as an integral component of the course):

- a. Role and responsibilities of a visual risk assessor.
- b. Background information on lead and its adverse health effects, how children and adults are exposed to lead, and how to prevent lead exposure in them.
- c. Background information on federal, state, and local regulations and guidance that pertains to lead-based paint and lead-based activities.
- d. Methods of conducting visual risk assessments.\*
- e. Paint, dust, and soil sampling methodologies.\*
- f. Clearance standards and testing, including random sampling.\*
- g. Identification of lead-based paint hazards.\*
- h. Preparation of the final assessment report.
- i. Record keeping.

- j. The course shall conclude with a course test and, if applicable, a hands-on skill assessment. The student must achieve a score of at least 80 percent on the examination and successfully complete the hands-on skill assessment to successfully complete the course.

**Continuing Education**

Applicants must complete an IDPH-approved 8-hour refresher course every three years. The refresher course shall cover at least the following subjects:

- a. A review of the curriculum topics of the initial certification course for the appropriate discipline as listed in subrules 70.4(3) to 70.4(8).
- b. An overview of current safety practices relating to lead-based paint activities in general, as well as specific information pertaining to the appropriate discipline.
- c. Current laws and regulations relating to lead-based paint activities in general, as well as specific information pertaining to the appropriate discipline.
- d. Current technologies relating to lead-based paint activities in general, as well as specific information pertaining to the appropriate discipline.
- e. The course shall conclude with a course test and, if applicable, a hands-on skill assessment. The student must achieve a score of at least 80 percent on the examination and successfully complete the hands-on skill assessment to successfully complete the course.

**Examination**

No examination is required at this time.

**Fees**

Application: \$50  
 Duration: One Year  
 Renewal: \$50  
 Exam: None

**SOC Code, Title, & Avg. Hourly Wage**

19-2041 – Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health (\$23.11)

**Number of Licenses Issued**

Total number of certificates active as of December 31,  
 2003: 128  
 2002: 124  
 2001: 147  
 2000: 101